

## Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

NATO SUPPORT ACTIVITY BRUSSELS

SECAF WASHDC

USDELMC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS USNATO 1094

SECDEF FOR DASD(A) COOKE FOR LEGERE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, NATO

SUBJ: RELOCATION AND CONSOLIDATION OF BRUSSELS APO'S

1. ON 19 JANUARY 1976 MAJOR ROBERT K. DOERK, USAF, COMMANDER, USAFPCS, LONDON DISTRICT, VISITED THE MISSION AND PRESENTED A PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE AND CONSOLIDATE THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AND USNATO APO FACILITIES AT HEADQUARTERS, NATO SUPPORT ACTIVITY. HE BASED THE PROPOSAL ON MANPOWER AND EQUIPMENT SAVINGS TO HIS COMMAND AND MAKING POSTAL SERVICE MORE EASILY AVAILABLE TO A GREATER NUMBER OF POSTAL PATRONS, I.E., DEPENDENTS.

2. AFTER CAREFULLY CONSIDERING THE PROPOSAL WITH MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, USDELMC, AND NATO SUPPORT ACTIVITY, THE MISSION SUBMITTED A JOINT REPLY ON 4 FEBRUARY 1976 STATING THAT: A) ALTHOUGH THE PROPOSAL WOULD NO DOUBT RESULT IN A SAVING TO THE USAF, ITS NET RESULT, WHEN CONSIDERING ITS EFFECT ON OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES AND NATO USERS, WOULD BE AN OVERALL INCREASE IN COST TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AND B) IT WOULD NOT MAKE POSTAL SERVICE MORE EASILY AVAILABLE TO THE MAJORITY OF USER PERSONNEL, I.E. SPONSORS, HOWEVER, UNCLASSIFIED

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BY MEMO DATED 6 FEBRUARY 1976 MAJOR DOERK HAS DIRECTED THAT THE INITIAL PHASE OF THE CONSOLIDATION BEGIN WITH ONE RELOCATION OF THE EMBASSY APO FACILITY, WITH USNATO'S FACILITY TO BE RELOCATED LATER.

3. THERE ARE TWO APO FACILITIES WITHIN THE BRUSSELS AREA: ONE IN THE AMERICAN EMBASSY MANNED BY THREE AFNCO'S AND ONE AT USNATO, MANNED BY TWO AFNCO'S. THE EMBASSY APO FACILITY PROVIDES SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY LOCATED IN THAT AREA, I.E., THE EMBASSY, THE US MISSION TO THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, THE FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY, THE DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE, THE NATO SUPPORT ACTIVITY, AND MANY SMALL OFFICES REPRESENTING OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES. USNATO'S APO FACILITY, LOCATED APPROXIMATELY EIGHT MILES FROM THE EMBASSY, SERVES ALL OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS (USNATO, USDELMC, AWACS OFFICE, ETC.) AT NATO HEADQUARTERS AND PROVIDES OFFICIAL U.S. MAIL SERVICE TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION.

4. PRESENTLY APO PERSONNEL LOCATED AT USNATO AND THE EMBASSY PICK UP AND DELIVER OUTGOING AND INCOMING MAIL FOR EACH APO FACILITY. UNDER THE PROPOSAL THIS SERVICE WOULD BE DISCONTINUED AND THE EMBASSY, USNATO, AND USDELMC WOULD EACH BE REQUIRED TO GO TO THE AIR MAIL TERMINAL (AMT) LOCATED AT THE BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND PICK UP AND DELIVER ITS OWN MAIL. PRESENTLY THESE AGENCIES DO NOT HAVE ASSIGNED POSTAL PERSONNEL AND VEHICLES. ADOPTION OF THE CONSOLIDATION WOULD REQUIRE THE ASSIGNMENT OF TRUCKS AND DRIVERS.

5. NATO SUPPORT ACTIVITY (NSA) HAS BEEN QUERIED AND HAS STATED THAT THEY DO NOT PRESENTLY HAVE THE ASSETS TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL. THEIR PROBLEM IS THAT DRIVERS ASSIGNED TO NSA ARE BELGIAN NATIONALS, AND REGULATIONS REQUIRE CLEARED AMERICAN PERSONNEL TO ACCOMPANY MAIL RUNS TO AND FROM THE AMT. ADDITIONALLY, THE NSA BUILDING, WHICH IS LOCATED TWO MILES FROM USNATO AND SIX MILES FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY, IS NOT READILY ACCESSIBLE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION NOR IS THERE ANY GOVERNMENT TRANSPORTATION WHICH COULD BE USED BY PERSONNEL WITHOUT POV.

6. THE REQUIREMENT FOR ANY OF THE APPROXIMATELY 240 DEFENSE UNCLASSIFIED

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AND STATE PERSONNEL SERVING AT NATO HEADQUARTERS TO CONDUCT POSTAL BUSINESS AT THE APO WOULD CAUSE THE LOSS OF APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR OF VALUABLE AND COSTLY TIME.

7. THE US REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NATO MILITARY COMMITTEE AND THE COUNSELOR FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS, AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS STRONGLY SUPPORT OUR VIEWS THAT RELOCATION AND CONSOLIDATION OF THE POSTAL FACILITIES WOULD NOT APPEAR TO SERVE THE BEST INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

8. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD INTERCEDE IN OUR BEHALF TO PRECLUDE THE CONSOLIDATION AND RELOCATION OF THE BRUSSELS APO FACILITIES. STREATOR

UNCLASSIFIED

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